

care communities, and Northwestern and National-Louis Universities. Examples of effective collaborations spearheaded by Dr. Alson's administration include an award-winning School Based Health Center, student workforce training, and an interagency consortium for youth advocacy.

Throughout his tenure as Superintendent of Evanston Township High School, Dr. Alson has made the achievement of students of color an essential goal. In 1999, Dr. Alson founded the Minority Student Achievement Network, a national consortium of 25 urban-suburban districts devoted to improving the academic achievement of students of color. Dr. Alson has helped foster a culture of excellence and a climate of high expectations for all students. While more work remains to be done, Evanston Township High School has seen the rate of college attendance for students of color rise from 65 percent to almost 80 percent.

Dr. Alson will long be remembered with gratitude for his tireless efforts to promote academic excellence and social justice. However, most importantly, he can look about the community and see a legacy made of the thousands of young people, parents, teachers, administrators and community members whose lives he has touched. It is a legacy for which he can be immensely proud.

In honor of his legacy of service, I offer Dr. Alson this United States flag as a symbol of appreciation, esteem and good wishes. This flag was flown over the United States Capitol building in Washington, DC in honor of an outstanding educator, advocate, true public servant, and my valued personal friend.

On behalf of the community to which he has given so much, I congratulate Dr. Alson and offer him my best wishes for many years of health, happiness, and continued success.

#### TRIBUTE TO KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, POLICE CHIEF RON MILLER

#### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Kansas City, Kansas, Police Chief Ron Miller, who recently announced his retirement after 34 years of service with the department, including the last six years as chief.

Throughout his tenure, Chief Miller has focused the police department's crime fighting efforts on—in his words—"guns, drugs and violent crime." Under his command, the department maintained its national accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, where it first achieved that status in 1993 and was designated a flagship agency by them in 2004.

A Kansas City, Kansas, native who attended Central Missouri State University, Chief Miller focused his department's efforts on community policing and expanded community partnerships. As City Administrator, Dennis Hays said upon announcing Chief Miller's retirement, "Ron has been a great leader for the Police Department and the community has benefited from his knowledge and ability. Ron is a dedicated professional . . ."

As U.S. Representative for the Third Congressional District, I have had numerous opportunities to work closely with Chief Miller during his tenure and I wholeheartedly en-

dorse Dennis Hays' tribute to him. Chief Ron Miller was a dedicated, professional, public servant who served his community with distinction. His presence in the Chief's office will be sorely missed in the months ahead, I am sure, but I join with all Kansas Citizens in wishing him well in his richly-deserved retirement.

#### THE HOMESTATE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT NUMBER 1 LEGISLATION

#### HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will facilitate the timely and seamless transfer of the Homestake Hydroelectric Project Number 1 from the Barrick Gold Corporation to the City of Spearfish, South Dakota.

This hydroelectric facility, originally constructed to provide electricity for a gold mine in the Black Hills of South Dakota, has operated continuously since 1912. The mine recently closed and the city of Spearfish acquired the project with plans to operate it to both generate power and benefit downstream water users.

When the city acquired the project, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission asserted jurisdiction, based on a finding that a pre-1920 federal right-of-way grant which authorized the occupancy of federal lands by the project, had expired. This project has been operating for more than 90 years under a 1909 right-of-way allowing the project to occupy U.S. Forest Service land in the Black Hills National Forest. The project had never previously been subject to FERC jurisdiction under the Federal Power Act and the U.S. Forest Service maintains that the right-of-way continues to be valid.

The legislation accomplishes three goals. First, the legislation strikes a balance between the various and important water uses of Spearfish Creek—agricultural irrigation use, power generation, recreation, aesthetic and to protect a unique and historic trout fishery.

Second, it authorizes the United States Geological Study to examine the hydrology of the watershed to ensure that future management of the stream is based on sound science.

Third, it enables the City of Spearfish, South Dakota, to assume operation of the facility without having to undertake the lengthy and complex federal hydroelectric licensing process operated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

This legislation would enable the facility to continue operating as it has since its construction. It also recognizes that the City of Spearfish and the State of South Dakota are well equipped—as they have been for the past century—to appropriately manage the flows of Spearfish Creek.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on June 6 and June 7 and as a result I missed rollcall votes Nos. 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229 and 230. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on

rollcall votes Nos. 226 and 229, and "nay" on rollcall votes Nos. 223, 224, 225, 227, 228, and 230.

#### A CALL FOR SHARED SACRIFICE

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD, an op-ed piece, entitled Consider the Living, published May 29, 2006 by Bob Herbert of the New York Times. Herbert eloquently points out the hypocrisy of the Bush administration on the issue of the war in Iraq. Herbert declares that the fastest way to end this war is to "start sending the children of the well-to-do to Baghdad, and start raising taxes to pay of the many hundreds of billions that the war is costing." The claim that chaos would ensue if we pull out of Iraq is just an excuse to continue the reckless actions of the current administration. Recalling President Bush's challenge to the insurgents to "bring 'em on," Herbert counters that we have lost nearly 2,500 Americans in the war and tens of thousands of Iraqis, and they are still "bringing 'em on." The ones suffering the most in the war are the non-combatants, Iraqi residents who are "like sheep in a slaughter farm." Even after three years parts of Western Iraq are not under U.S. control. Is this what we are looking forward to? Is the next three years going to cost us 2,500 more American lives as well as billions more of taxpayers money? Not to mention that casualties on the Iraqi side and the atrocities that are byproducts of war.

My colleagues, I join Mr. Herbert in urging you to take decisive measures to bring a swift end to this fiasco. Let us stop this needless waste of lives.

[From the New York Times, May 29, 2006]

#### CONSIDER THE LIVING

(By Bob Herbert)

Pretty soon this war in Iraq will have lasted as long as our involvement in World War II, with absolutely no evidence of any sort of conclusion in sight.

The point of Memorial Day is to honor the service and the sacrifice of those who have given their lives in the nation's wars. But I suggest that we take a little time today to consider the living.

Look around and ask yourself if you believe that stability or democracy in Iraq—or whatever goal you choose to assert as the reason for this war—is worth the life of your son or your daughter, or your husband or your wife, or the co-worker who rides to the office with you in the morning, or your friendly neighbor next door.

Before you gather up the hot dogs and head out to the barbecue this afternoon, look in a mirror and ask yourself honestly if Iraq is something you would be willing to die for.

There is no shortage of weaselly politicians and misguided commentators ready to tell us that we can't leave Iraq—we just can't. Chaos will ensue. Maybe even a civil war. But what they really mean is that we can't leave as long as the war can continue to be fought by other people's children, and as long as we can continue to put this George W. Bush-inspired madness on a credit card.

Start sending the children of the well-to-do to Baghdad, and start raising taxes to payoff the many hundreds of billions that the war is costing, and watch how quickly this tragic fiasco is brought to an end.

At an embarrassing press conference last week, President Bush and Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain looked for all the world like a couple of hapless schoolboys

who, while playing with fire, had set off a conflagration that is still raging out of control. Their recklessness has so far cost the lives of nearly 2,500 Americans and tens of thousands of innocent Iraqis, many of them children.

Among the regrets voiced by the president at the press conference was his absurd challenge to the insurgents in 2003 to "bring 'em on." But Mr. Bush gave no hint as to when the madness might end.

How many more healthy young people will we shovel into the fires of Iraq before finally deciding it's time to stop?

How many dead are enough?

There is no good news coming out of Iraq. Sabrina Tavernise of The Times recently wrote: "In the latest indication of the crushing hardships weighing on the lives of Iraqis, increasing portions of the middle class seem to be doing everything they can to leave the country."

The middle class is all but panicked at the inability of the Iraqi government or American forces to quell the relentless violence. Ms. Tavernise quoted a businessman who is planning to move to Jordan: "We're like sheep at a slaughter farm."

Iraqis continue to be terrorized by kidnappers, roving death squads and, in a term perhaps coined by Mr. Bush, "suiciders."

The American ambassador, Zalmay Khalilzad, acknowledged last week that even at this late date, there are parts of western Iraq that are not controlled by American forces, but rather "are under the control of terrorists and insurgents."

Now we get word that U.S. marines may have murdered two dozen Iraqis in cold blood last November.

No one should be surprised that such an atrocity could occur. That's what happens in war. The killing gets out of control, which is yet another reason why it's important to have mature leaders who will do everything possible to avoid war, rather than cavalierly sending the young and the healthy off to combat as if it were no more serious an enterprise than a big-time sporting event.

Nothing new came out of the Bush-Blair press conference. After more than three years these two men are as clueless as ever about what to do in Iraq. Are we doomed to follow the same pointless script for the next three years? And for three years after that?

Leadership does not get more pathetic than this. Once there was F.D.R. and Churchill. Now there's Bush and Blair.

Reacting to the allegations about the murder of civilians, the commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Michael Hagee, went to Iraq last week to warn his troops about the danger of becoming "indifferent to the loss of a human life."

Somehow that message needs to be conveyed to the top leaders of this country, and to the public at large. There is no better day than Memorial Day to reflect on it. As we remember the dead, we should consider the living, and stop sending people by the thousands to pointless, unnecessary deaths.

#### SUPPORT FOR THE 1ST ANNUAL NATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFIDENCE DAY

**HON. MADELINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the 1st Annual National Women's Confidence Day. I join the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) in their effort to

raise awareness for and development of confidence in the personal and professional lives of women everywhere. Supporting the development and improvement of women not only in this country but around the world is of critical importance. Establishing and celebrating the 1st Annual National Women's Confidence Day has gone far to achieve this objective.

The impacts that women make in our workplaces, in our communities, and in our homes are many and commendable. The influence of women today is at a highpoint in history. Women serve in leadership roles in private sector businesses, in government, in the field of education, in the arts and sciences, and in virtually every sector of our society.

Eighty-two females proudly and ably serve as Member of Congress in the 109th Congress. I, and my female colleagues, know firsthand not only the barriers to overcome and the rigors to endure, but also the satisfaction of achieving the personal and professional goals that we have set for ourselves. Having the confidence to meet these challenges and best them makes the rewards of doing so that much more enjoyable. Having the confidence in yourself to set ambitious goals, to work towards them, and to attain them is crucial to success in both personal and professional aspects of one's life.

The 1st Annual National Women's Confidence Day will carry the message that self-confidence and self-esteem in women—old and young—are important tools not only for success in the workplace but also for living healthy, happy, and meaningful lives.

It is my pleasure to support the YWCA in promoting the far-reaching objectives of this program. Their work will improve the lives of women and girls in the United States. I commend them for their leadership on this issue.

#### CELEBRATING THE 50TH BIRTHDAY OF DR. TIMOTHY G. BAKER

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Dr. Timothy G. Baker of Fresno, California on the occasion of his 50th birthday.

Dr. Baker has been a committed political advocate and a valued member of our community for as long as many of us can remember; it is for these reasons we honor him for his accomplishment and his character.

An advocate even in grade-school, Dr. Baker's interest in politics began long ago when he ran for President and Vice President of his class while attending Tenaya Junior High School and Bullard High School in Fresno. While his legislative agenda has progressed from leading student council meetings in grade school to managing key components of state political campaigns in his professional life, Tim Baker's energy never waned in community fundraising efforts to improve the quality of life for citizens in our Valley.

After graduation from high school in 1973, he continued his education at California State University, Fresno where he pursued a Bachelor's of Arts in Zoology. It was during this time that Dr. Baker became drawn to California State politics. He was involved in the campaign for Senator George Zenovich, now

retired from the California State Legislature. Having acquired the taste for political campaigns, Tim became a valued asset in Congressman Rick Lehman's first California State Assembly campaign and my own first campaign for the California State Assembly.

The community has truly benefited from Dr. Baker's hard work and distinctive character. He eventually earned his Doctorates of Dental Surgery from the University of Pacific in 1982 and went on to serve as a resident in general practice dentistry at Valley Medical Center. Dr. Baker continues to practice dentistry in Fresno and also serves as the 6 County Dental Education Director for the University of California in San Francisco, headquartered in Fresno. In honor of his hard work and commitment to the community, Dr. Baker was awarded the University of California, San Francisco Outstanding Achievement Award.

Dr. Baker is a shining example of what it means to constantly strive for perfection. He is a political consultant, a practicing dentist and a valued member of our community. On behalf of all who know him, I would like to thank Dr. Tim Baker for his many contributions to our community and wish him continued success.

#### HONORING CHARLOTTE MARIE PETERSON QUANN

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great civic and community advocate, Charlotte Marie Peterson Quann, who died on May 17, 2006. I join my constituents in honoring her lifetime of service to San Francisco's most vulnerable and in recognizing her leadership as one of the earliest African American professional women.

Charlotte called many places her home, but she devoted more than three decades of her life to improving the lives of those less fortunate in the San Francisco Bay Area. She served as the Chair of the Board for La Casa de Las Madres, an emergency shelter for battered women and their children, and as Chair of the Glide Church Board of Trustees in the Tenderloin neighborhood of San Francisco. At Glide she ministered to the poor and infirm and took special delight in the children's programs. Charlotte was an active participant in the Cal-Nevada United Methodist conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry. When she died at age 72, she was the Chair of the Board of Center Point drug treatment programs and of the Mary Elizabeth Inn, a shelter for women in transition.

Charlotte began her leadership activities early in life. In high school she joined numerous clubs where she ran for office. She graduated from the Detroit Public School System and graduated from Northwestern High School at age 16. She was active in the Urban League, YMCA speech and debate, and her photo is in Northwestern's Hall of fame. At age 16 she went to the U.S. Capitol and served as one of the first and youngest female Congressional pages. Her father, at whose side she learned, organizing Detroit's factory workers, inspired her political activism.

In 1959, Charlotte became the first African American to work for Capital Airlines (the